I was in the front row of the crowd with a view of the guillotine, I had arrived early in anticipation of the beheading of the aristos, our cruel leaders. I could smell the smoke of the nearby meat vendor, I could feel another hunger pang take control of my midriff but I can’t eat now, I have to see them die. Not that I have the money to eat either, I can’t afford the luxury of teas and meats. I could sense the excitement of my brethren who stood by my side, I could hear the soft chatter of the women and the games of the children. I could also feel the cold bleak stones beneath my feet their coldness seeping through the thin shoes I wore. As I saw the horse drawn cart come through the archway I cheered, I could feel the blood run through my veins, I could hear the dull thump in the back of my head. I looked at the solemn eyes of the aristos pleading for mercy as they looked through the crowds for any sign of hope they could. The roar of the crowd was deafening. Soon after the roar was subdued by the anticipation of the first beheading, I could feel a tingle run up my arm and settle in the back of my skull. The screech of the wooden steps being scraped along the cobblestone made me cringe but it didn’t slow my heart, it only made it beat faster. The slow solemn steps of the Aristos made me feel happy as they are being treated as we once were. They stepped up on to the platform and looked out amongst the crowd for some sign that they were not to be killed but they saw no sympathy in our eyes. The first Aristo was pinned down with his head trapped in the guillotine. He yelled out to the crowd “this is an outrage”, all that speaking earned him was a quick and harsh punch to the jaw, after that he remained silent. The arms and legs were pinned to the table, the slide of the blade being lifted into the air made me smile. The blade dropped, clean cut through the back of the neck, the blood continued to gush from the mans severed head. The executioner lifted up his head held it up for the crowd to see, and he shouted “Long live the republic” the crowd shouted and shouted until we could no more.